

**SCIENCE  
SUMMIT  
AT UNGA79**



**Reciprocity in Multilateral Research Collaboration**  
16–17 September 2024

 **Research Council  
of Norway**

**SCIENCE  
EUROPE**  
Shaping the future of research 

 **Norwegian Consulate General  
New York**



## Concept

International co-operation in research and innovation is crucial for advancing the frontiers of knowledge and innovation, as well as maximising their economic and societal impact. As highlighted in the 2024 R&I [Informal Ministerial meeting](#), it is also of geopolitical and strategic importance and contributes to provide potential solutions to challenges such as climate change, health, and food safety. Research collaborations contribute to a more open and peaceful world.

[Science Europe](#) and the [Research Council of Norway \(RCN\)](#) are organising a full-day event on 17 September 2024 during the UN Science Summit to explore how reciprocal and equitable scientific partnerships can build mutual trust and co-operation – within and outside the lab. This event builds on Science Europe's [2023 High Level Workshop](#), which aimed to promote dialogue on the conditions and policies for boosting international scientific collaboration between Europe, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Based on its outcomes and the resulting [statement](#), Science Europe will bring together partners from the Global South and Global North.

In line with the UN Policy briefs and the [New Agenda for Peace](#), and the UNESCO [Recommendation on Open Science](#), Science Europe seeks to support international science co-operation based on reciprocity, inclusion and that benefits all actors involved. This event will underline cross-cutting issues, such as the critical importance of Open Science, [Diamond Open Access](#), and safeguarding of knowledge security. Science Europe's dedication to ensuring free, unrestricted access to science resonates with the broader goals of international co-operation, as well as with the advancement of science for the public good.

## Objectives

To achieve equitable and reciprocal collaboration and to effectively address multifactor global challenges, the benefits of evidence-based policies should be continuously promoted. Among others, structural conditions of research and innovation in the Global South – including infringement on academic freedom, influence of predatory journals, and lack of up-to-date research infrastructures – should be tackled to ensure an even playing field.

The anticipated outcome of this event is the publication of a set of recommendations on strategies and methodologies to foster academic freedom, emphasise inclusivity, and support equitable access to research publications and data. The dialogue will later extend to citizens, calling for an open discourse that seeks to involve and benefit the broader scientific community.



# Programme

## Reciprocity in Multilateral Research Collaboration

### 16 September

**Reception**, Royal Norwegian Consulate General New York (*by invitation only*)

### 17 September

**Venue**: CURE, 345 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010, United States

09.00–09.10

#### Welcome addresses

- **Mari Sundli Tveit**, Chief Executive of the Norwegian Research Council (RCN), President of Science Europe

09.10–09.20

#### Introduction to Science Europe and context of the event

- **Lidia Borrell-Damián**, Secretary General, Science Europe
- **Declan Kirrane**, Managing Director ISC Intelligence

09.20–10.40

#### Delivering Academic Freedom, Scientific Integrity, and Equity for Inclusive Scientific Collaboration

Keynote speaker

- **Alejandro Adem**, President of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Chair of Global Research Council (GRC) Governing Board

Panel

- **Matthias Koenig**, Vice-President of the German Research Foundation (DFG), Member of the Science Europe Governing Board
- **Tolullah Oni**, Clinical Professor of Global Public Health & Sustainable Urban Development, Cambridge University, UK
- **Carlos Batthyány**, Executive Director of Pasteur Institute, Montevideo, Uruguay
- **Jacqueline Ottmann**, President of the First Nations University of Canada

Moderator

- **Dorothy Ngila**, Director of Knowledge Networks and Science Granting Councils Initiative (SGCI); Strategy, Planning and Partnerships (SPP) at the National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa

#### Guiding questions for discussion

1. How can we develop policies to better integrate academic freedom into multilateral collaborations? What are the boundary conditions?
2. How can we design effective mechanisms to counter-balance brain drain and facilitate brain circulation?
3. How to facilitate inclusive spaces for dialogue involving scientists and policy makers?
4. What are the best practices emerging for co-design, co-creation, and co-learning in scientific research?



10.40–11.10

*Coffee Break*

11.10–12.40

### Addressing challenges for reciprocity and equitable multilateralism in scientific collaboration towards achieving SDGs

Keynote speaker

- **Gabriela Ramos**, Assistant Director-General for the Social and Human Sciences at UNESCO (*online*)

Panel

- **Gagandeep Kang**, Director of Global Health, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, US
- **Thandi Mgwebi**, Group Executive at the National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa
- **Eduardo Ortega**, Panama's National Secretary of Science, Technology and Innovation
- **Amna Baloch**, Pakistan's Ambassador to the European Union
- **Osamu Kobayashi**, Director of the Department of International Affairs at the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

Moderator

- **Javier Moreno Fuentes**, Vice-President for International Affairs of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), Vice-President of Science Europe

Guiding questions for discussion

1. How can we address global challenges to improve the synergies between international co-operation, programmes, projects, and initiatives?
2. How to ensure equal access to research infrastructures and incentives to encourage scientists and policy makers to carry out high-quality research, and minimise bias in research assessment?
3. What are practical opportunities to measure and capture the impacts of reciprocity and equity when building, implementing, and sustaining multilateral scientific collaborations?
4. What are the ways to share and leverage lessons from inter-regional exchanges to escalate bilateral good practices towards the global dimension?

12.40–13.00

### Conclusions and next steps

- **Lidia Borrell-Damián**, Secretary General of Science Europe
- **Declan Kirrane**, Managing Director ISC Intelligence

18.00–19.30

### Reception

Scandinavia House, 58 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016, United States



## Biographies of Speakers

Speakers are listed in order of appearance on the programme.



### Mari Sundli Tveit

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE NORWEGIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL (RCN) &  
PRESIDENT OF SCIENCE EUROPE**

Mari Sundli Tveit was Deputy Director-General of the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise before leading the Research Council of Norway (RCN). Prior to that, she was Professor of Landscape Architecture and Rector of the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. She has also held numerous elected positions, including as a board member at the European University Association and at the Centre for Advanced Studies of Chalmers Technical University, as well that of president of Universities Norway. She is experienced in leading large mergers, organisational integration, strategic development, and working with a large international network within academia, the business sector, and government.



### Lidia Borrell-Damián

**SECRETARY GENERAL OF SCIENCE EUROPE**

Lidia Borrell-Damián is Secretary General of Science Europe, the association representing national public organisations based in countries in the Council of Europe that fund and perform research. She holds overall responsibility for the organisation's strategic development and implementation.

Her areas of experience cover a wide range of Research and Innovation (R&I) policy priorities, namely EU Framework Programmes; European Research Area; International Co-operation; research infrastructures; research ethics and integrity; research assessment processes; university-business co-operation; regional innovation; gender and diversity; Open Science; doctoral education; energy science policy. Concerning international research co-operation, she is engaged in diverse policy fora including: the Global Research Council (GRC), supra-national bodies (UN; OECD-GSF; CoARA; DORA), and well-established international conferences (STS; FAPM; World Science Forum).

She holds a Doctorate in Chemistry (Chemical Engineering: specialty Solar Energy) from the University of Barcelona (1995). She worked at the European University Association (EUA) during 2006–2019, serving the last five years as the Director for R&I. She was Director of Research at *Universitat Pompeu Fabra*, (Barcelona, Spain, 2003–2005). Formerly, she was a Visiting Scholar at the University of Western Ontario (London, Canada, 1999–2001) and at North Carolina State University (Raleigh, USA, 1997–1998). She was an Assistant Professor at the University of Barcelona from 1990–1998.



## Alejandro Adem

**PRESIDENT OF THE NATURAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA (NSERC) & CHAIR OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE GLOBAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (GRC)**

Professor Alejandro Adem has been President of NSERC since October 2019. As a highly accomplished researcher in the field of mathematics and a faculty member at the University of British Columbia, Professor Adem has significant leadership experience in the Canadian research and innovation ecosystem.

Professor Adem is currently Chair of the Canada Research Coordinating Committee, Chair of the Global Research Council's Governing Board, and serves on the Board of Trustees of the Human Frontier Science Program and on the Council of the American Mathematical Society. Over his career he has served on a variety of scientific, editorial and governance boards for the worldwide mathematical sciences community, and is a member of the International Mathematical Union's Committee for Women in Mathematics. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a Fellow of the American Mathematical Society, a Fellow of the Canadian Mathematical Society, and a Corresponding Member of the Mexican Academy of Sciences.



## Matthias Koenig

**VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION (DFG), MEMBER OF THE SCIENCE EUROPE GOVERNING BOARD**

Matthias Koenig is professor for empirical macrosociology at the Max-Weber-Institute for Sociology at Heidelberg University. Holding a doctoral degree from the University of Marburg and a habilitation from the University of Bamberg, he previously was professor for sociology of religion at Göttingen University.

He has held visiting positions at the *École Pratique des Hautes Etudes*, the University of Toronto, the University of Michigan, and Harvard University, and he was fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity.

Funded by various grant programmes, Koenig's research covers the areas of sociological theory, human rights, religion and migration, with a particular focus on global and local dynamics of governing cultural diversity. Koenig has served on numerous editorial boards and on councils of both national and international scholarly associations. In 2021, he was elected as Vice President of the German Research Foundation (DFG).



## Tolullah Oni

**CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH & SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY, UK**

Tolu(Allah) Oni is Clinical Professor of Global Public Health and Sustainable Development at the University Cambridge and Founder & CEO of UrbanBetter. She is an Extraordinary Professor in Architecture at University of Pretoria and Honorary Professor in Public Health, University of Cape Town.

A Public Health Physician and urban epidemiologist, her work supports a co-ordinated approach between science, policy, and societal role players, identifying creative and long-term strategies to address complex urban population and planetary health challenges in rapidly growing cities. She has served as scientific adviser for several organisations, including the International Society for Urban Health, the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Planetary health board, and the World Obesity Federation. She is an editorial board member of PLOS Global Public Health, Lancet Planetary Health, Cities and Health, and the Journal of Urban Health.

In recognition of her work, she has been profiled in the Lancet journal, Science magazine, and the British Medical Journal, and is a Fellow of the International Science Council, African Academy of Sciences, Next Einstein Forum Fellow and a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader.



## Carlos Batthyány

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PASTEUR INSTITUTE, MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY**

Carlos Batthyány is a medical doctor with a PhD in Science. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for Free Radical Biology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and worked as a Research Instructor in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Previously, he was an Associate Professor of Biochemistry at the School of Medicine, Universidad de la República, Uruguay, and a Principal Investigator at the Institut Pasteur de Montevideo, Uruguay.

Currently, he is the Executive Director of the *Institut Pasteur de Montevideo*. Additionally, he is the founder and Chief Medical Officer of Eolo Pharma Inc., a startup dedicated to developing cutting-edge pharmacological strategies for the prevention and treatment of obesity and type 2 diabetes. Eolo has just completed its first-in-human clinical trial (Phase 1 A/B) in Australia, marking the first study in Uruguay's history to transition from laboratory research to a human trial.



## Jacqueline Ottmann

**PRESIDENT OF THE FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CANADA**

Dr. Jacqueline Ottmann, whose traditional name is mizowaykomiguk paypompwayotung, meaning 'thunder that can be felt over a large landscape', is an esteemed leader, scholar, and advocate for indigenous education and leadership. Anishinaabe (Saulteaux) from Fishing Lake First Nation in Treaty Four, Saskatchewan, she was profoundly influenced by her culture and the values of her community. These early influences shaped her lifelong commitment to education and social justice.

Dr. Ottmann pursued higher education with a focus on enhancing Indigenous education. She completed her Doctorate in Educational Administration at the University of Calgary. Her entire academic journey was marked by a dedication to integrating Indigenous perspectives into education and leadership practices. She has had a distinguished career in academia, characterised by her commitment to promoting Indigenous knowledges and leadership within educational systems, and has held several influential positions that highlight her dedication to these goals. As a passionate advocate for transforming educational systems to better serve Indigenous students, Dr. Ottmann has worked tirelessly to create inclusive and supportive educational environments that respect and integrate Indigenous knowledge and practices. She has contributed to the development of policies and frameworks that promote equity, diversity, and inclusion in education. Her work has significantly influenced educational institutions and policies, fostering greater recognition and support for Indigenous education.

Dr. Jacqueline Ottmann's legacy is one of transformative leadership and unwavering commitment to Indigenous education. Her work has paved the way for future generations of Indigenous scholars and leaders, extending her impact across educational institutions and communities. Her vision for the future includes educational systems that are inclusive, equitable, and reflective of Indigenous knowledges and perspectives, ensuring that Indigenous students can thrive and succeed.



## Gabriela Ramos

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR THE SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES, UNESCO**

Gabriela Ramos is the Assistant Director-General for the Social and Human Sciences of UNESCO, where she oversees the institution's contributions to building inclusive societies. Her mandate includes tackling economic inequalities of income and opportunity, and promoting social inclusion and gender equality. She also oversees the youth support agenda, promotion of values





through sport, fight against racism and discrimination, and ethics of science, including of neurotechnology and the internet of things. She has overseen the development and adoption of the first global instrument to promote the ethics of artificial intelligence, adopted by acclamation in 2021 by UNESCO's General Conference.

She also launched the Global Forum against Racism, to catalyse the political support that member countries have given to this cause. On gender, she has advanced several initiatives, particularly to combat gender stereotypes and biases, including in new technologies. She also leads the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme to help UNESCO Member States strengthen the connection between research and policy and between knowledge and action. She has overseen the publication on 'Inclusive and resilient societies: equality, sustainability and efficiency'. She is currently leading UNESCO and international policy-makers and experts' call to establish a global governance of the ethics of neurotechnology.

Previously, Gabriela Ramos worked as Cabinet Director and Sherpa for the G20, G7 and APEC at the OECD, contributing to increasing the OECD's global impact and leading key initiatives such as 'Inclusive Growth', 'New Approaches to Economic Challenges', 'Climate Change and Growth', the gender equality strategy and work on well-being and children. At the G20, she contributed to the international reform for fair tax systems; the adoption of the gender-quota (to reduce the labour gap) and the establishment of the W20; and the adoption of the principles of artificial intelligence, among others. She also oversaw Global Relations and the OECD's membership enlargement process.

She is a member of the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council (GEAC) for 2022, an independent advisory body that develops recommendations on gender equality issues across the entire G7 agenda. In 2019, she launched the Business for Inclusive Growth (B4IG) platform, bringing together 40 multinational companies committed to reducing inequalities. Previously, she was Director of the OECD Office in Mexico and Latin America where she supported reforms in education, telecommunications, gender and health. She was a member of the Mexican Foreign Service. In 2013 she was awarded the Order of Merit (*Ordre du Mérite*) by the President of France.

Her work to promote gender equality has earned her several awards including from Forbes and Apolitico. She has been a Fulbright and Ford McArthur Fellow. She is an alumna of Harvard University's Masters in Public Policy and Universidad Iberoamericana's BA in International Relations. She is a board member of the 'Paris Peace Forum'; the 'UNICEF Advisory Board'; as well as the 'Lancet Commissions on COVID and on Men's Violence against Women', and member of the Danone '*Entreprise à Mission*' Committee.



## Gagandeep Kang

**DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL HEALTH, BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION, US**

Gagandeep 'Cherry' Kang is responsible for leading the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's EDGE team and executing against its three strategic focus areas: Enteric & Diarrheal Diseases, Diagnostics, and Genomics, Epidemiology, & Modelling.

Previously, in addition to serving on the foundation's Scientific Advisory Committee, Cherry has been a Professor in the Division of Gastrointestinal Sciences, Christian Medical College (CMC) in Vellore, India. She is a physician scientist working on vaccines and public health, particularly focused on children and enteric infectious disease in India.

While based at CMC for most of her career, she also worked for the Government of India, leading and building India's first translational health science institute. She has served on WHO headquarters, WHO Southeast Asia and Indian committees related to vaccines, covering policies and introductions, and in more technical areas, safety, new product development, modelling and biological standardisation. She has been a mentor and guide for women at work and outside of work.



## Thandi Mgwebi

**GROUP EXECUTIVE AT THE NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION (NRF), SOUTH AFRICA**

Thandi Mgwebi is a seasoned leader in the academic and research landscape of South Africa. Currently serving as the Group Executive at the National Research Foundation (NRF), she holds responsibility for Global Partnerships and Business Development. Thandi's career path has been marked by significant roles, including her tenure as Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Internationalization at Nelson Mandela University (NMU) and as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC) for Research and Innovation at the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT).

Her leadership extends beyond administrative positions; Thandi has actively contributed to shaping higher education policies and strategies. She played a crucial role as a theme leader for the Council on Higher Education (CHE) during the 25-year Review of South Africa's Higher Education landscape. Her involvement in initiatives like the South African Research Chairs Bilateral Initiative at the NRF reflects her commitment to advancing research and innovation.

Internationally, within university networks and science forums, Thandi has been an influential figure, participating in forums such as RUFORUM, and



AAUN, SASUF. She is a member of the leadership council of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network. (SDSN).

Thandi's academic journey is distinguished by her qualifications, including a PhD in Medical Cell & Developmental Biology from the University of Cape Town. She further honed her management skills through programs at the University of Stellenbosch Business School (GSB) and the University of Melbourne, Australia, focusing on Management Development and Tertiary Education Management, respectively.

Her multidimensional career has seen her engage with diverse research environments, from the South African Medical Research Council to prestigious international institutions like the MRC Centre for Neurobiology at University College London (UCL) during her PhD work. Her postdoctoral research fellowship at the Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine, UCT, added depth to her scientific acumen.

Thandi's influence extends beyond academia, as evidenced by her co-chairperson role at the 2018 World Sustainability Forum in Cape Town and her participation in the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) regional conference in 2019. Through her leadership, strategic insights, and collaborative endeavours, she continues to make significant contributions to South Africa's scientific and educational landscape on both national and global scales.



## Eduardo Ortega-Barría

PANAMA'S NATIONAL SECRETARY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Dr. Ortega-Barría completed his studies of medicine at *Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara* in Mexico and subsequently did his residence in Pediatrics at the National Institute of Pediatrics in Mexico City, and a fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Disease at *Hospital Infantil de Mexico Federico Gomez*. From 1987 to 1993, he carried out a post-doctoral fellowship in cell biology of parasites at New England Medical Center/Tufts University School of Medicine and served as Instructor in Medicine from 1988 to 1993 at New England Medical Center. In 1990, he was awarded the 'Maxwell Finland' Young Investigator Award by the Massachusetts Infectious Diseases Society.

Dr. Ortega-Barría completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Disease at Stanford University between 1993 and 1998, and a fellowship in the cell & molecular biology of *Toxoplasma gondii* at Stanford University School of Medicine. From 1998 to 2005, he served in different leadership positions at the Gorgas Memorial Institute for Health Studies in Panama, at Florida



State University-Panama, and the Institute for Advance Scientific Investigations & High Technology Services of the Panamanian Science, Technology, and Innovation Council. Dr. Ortega-Barría is the author of 100+ research articles, 38 textbook chapters on parasitology, pediatrics, infectious diseases, and vaccines, and is the co-inventor of 2 patents and 2 provisional patent applications in parasitology in the United States.

Between 2006–2020 he was Vice President and Director of Medical Affairs and Vaccine Research and Clinical Development for Latin America and the Caribbean at GlaxoSmithKline, where under his leadership vaccines against rotavirus, pneumococcus, human papillomavirus, combination vaccines, meningococcus, and Herpes zoster were developed. During the acute phase of the pandemic, he was a member of the COVID-19 Advisory Committee in Panama. In 2022, he received a *Doctor Honoris Causa* from the Santa María La Antigua Catholic University for the work carried out during the COVID-19 pandemic. As of January 2021, he became Panama's National Secretary for Science, Technology, and Innovation.



### **Amna Baloch**

**AMBASSADOR OF PAKISTAN TO BELGIUM, THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND LUXEMBOURG**

Amna Baloch is the Ambassador of Pakistan to Belgium, the European Union, and Luxembourg. She holds a Master's degree in History. Having joined the Foreign Service of Pakistan in 1991, she served at its headquarters as a Section Officer (1992–1994 & 1998–2000), Deputy Director (2004), Director (2005–2010), and Director General (2017–2018). Between 1994 and 1998, she served as Assistant Commissioner Income Tax.

Ms. Baloch has extensive international experience, having held diplomatic assignments in several Pakistan missions abroad: in Copenhagen, Denmark (2001–2003) and Colombo, Sri Lanka (2011–2014). Domestically, she has served on deputation as Joint Secretary (FSA) at the Prime Minister's Office in Islamabad (2018) and as Additional Secretary in Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2018–2019). Previously, she served as High Commission to Malaysia (2019–2023).



## Osamu Kobayashi

**DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AT THE JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY (JST)**

Mr. Kobayashi is the Director of the Department of International Affairs at the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). Before assuming his current position, he served as Director of JST's Singapore Office and Director of the Office of International Strategy. Throughout his 20-year career at JST, he has focused on promoting international co-operation. His efforts include facilitating matched-fund bi- and multilateral joint research for innovative scientific breakthroughs, collaborating with funders from both the Global North and South to drive sustainable development, and promoting talent mobility or 'brain circulation' among top researchers from leading scientific nations.

Since 2023, he has been a member of the Executive Support Group (ESG) for Asia Pacific and the co-chair of the Multilateral Engagement working group at the Global Research Council (GRC).



## International Programme Committee

The event 'Reciprocity in Multilateral Research Collaboration' was organised with the assistance of an international programme committee, consisting of experts from around the globe. Science Europe and the Research Council of Norway thank them for their contributions.



**Francisco Javier  
Moreno Fuentes**  
SPAIN



**Dorothy Ngila**  
SOUTH AFRICA



**Claudia Romano**  
URUGUAY



**Pushkar Sharma**  
INDIA



**Prue Williams**  
NEW ZEALAND



### Francisco Javier Moreno Fuentes

VICE-PRESIDENT FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE SPANISH NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (CSIC), VICE-PRESIDENT OF SCIENCE EUROPE

Francisco Javier Moreno-Fuentes is Senior Researcher at the Institute of Public Goods and Policies of the Spanish National Research Council (IPP-CSIC). BA in Sociology from the Universidad Complutense, Master in Social Sciences from the Juan March Institute, MSc in Social Policy from the LSE, and PhD in Political Science from the Universidad Autónoma of Madrid. Between July 2018 and September 2019 he was Deputy Director of the Spanish High Commissionate against child poverty.

He held visiting positions at international institutions (Harvard, Sciences-Po Paris), and taught at graduate and undergraduate levels (*Universitat de Barcelona, CEPAL-Université de Montpellier, Universitat Pompeu Fabra*). He has been a researcher for the European Social Policy Network (ESPN) of independent experts on social protection and inclusion of the European Commission Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion since 2014.

His main areas of interest are the comparative analysis of public policies, with a special focus on immigration, welfare regimes, healthcare and urban policies.

Since July 2022, he is the Vice President for International Affairs of CSIC.



## Dorothy Ngila

**DIRECTOR OF KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS AND SCIENCE GRANTING COUNCILS INITIATIVE (SGCI); STRATEGY, PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS (SPP) AT THE NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION (NRF), SOUTH AFRICA**

Dr. Dorothy Ngila advances her career at South Africa's National Research Foundation (NRF) as a director in the Business Advancement division. She co-ordinates the NRF's contribution to the Science Granting Councils Initiative (SGCI) in sub-Saharan Africa and advances the NRF's engagement in regional and global knowledge networks. She is interested in institutional capacity strengthening in Africa (with a focus on scientific institutions), how scientific boundary organisations interface science and policy (with a focus on academies of science and public funding agencies) and integrating gender and intersectionality in science (with a focus on women).

Dr. Ngila has extensive experience as a programme and research management leader. Examples of large and complex research programmes she has co-led are the Covid-19 Africa Rapid Grant Fund (CARGF), the O.R. Tambo Africa Research Chairs Initiative (ORTARChI), and the u'GOOD research programme on young people and relational wellbeing in the Global South. Dr. Ngila serves on the Advisory Board of the Alliance for African Partnership (AAP) and on the Global Research Council Executive Support Group. She has previously served as both a co-chair and member of the GRC Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group, and is a past chair of the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) South African National Chapter. Dr Ngila holds a PhD (Science and Technology Studies) from Stellenbosch University.



## Claudia Romano

**MANAGER URUGUAYAN AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, PRESIDENCY OF THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY**

Dr. Romano has Master's degrees in Public Policy and Management, from the University of the Republic, Uruguay, and in International Development Cooperation, from Complutense University of Madrid, Spain. She has a degree in Sociology from the University of the Republic, Uruguay.

She has been Cooperation Manager at the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation, Presidency of the Republic, since 2020 and was previously Director of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Education and Culture of Uruguay. She has co-ordinated the Latin American and Caribbean Network of National Contact Points, in the different Framework Programmes of the European Union since 2017.



Dr. Romano is a member of the Technical Secretariat of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) Working Group on Research Infrastructures, promoting political dialogue between LAC and Europe. She has over 30 years of experience in International Cooperation in Uruguay and LAC. She has worked with local and national governments, universities and other multilateral organisations such as the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, UNESCO and other international agencies.



### Pushkar Sharma

STAFF SCIENTIST-VII AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF IMMUNOLOGY (NII) INDIA. PFA

Pushkar Sharma has been a faculty at the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi, India since 2001. There, they have dissected novel signaling and trafficking pathways in malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum* and also in a related apicomplexan – *Toxoplasma gondii*. These studies provide novel insights into important processes involved in the parasite development, which include host cell invasion, parasite division and maturation. They have also had interest in neurodegeneration and research has shed light on the role of cell cycle proteins in Alzheimer's Disease.

The research has been supported by grants from international (The Wellcome Trust, UK, NIH, EU) and national agencies (Swarnajayanti Fellowship-DST, Team Science Grant- DBT\_Wellcome Trust India Alliance, grants from DBT and SERB) and has received recognition from International (International Senior Research Fellowship – Wellcome Trust, UK; Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award and the National Bioscience Award).

Pushkar Sharma has also been interim-Director of NII for a period and has served on various national international committees for reviewing research grants and formulating research policy. He is also currently a member on the Board of Trustees of the Human Frontiers Science Programme from India.



### Prue Williams

GENERAL MANAGER SCIENCE SYSTEM & INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE AT THE NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Dr. Prue Williams is Chief Advisor Science System for the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE).

Prue has a PhD in soil science and a research career in understanding sustainable land management issues in pastoral and cropping systems. She was General Manager Research for Crop and Food Research, one of the New





Zealand Crown Research Institutes and for 10 years managed the branch of MBIE that makes, manages and assesses scientific investments to meet New Zealand’s economic, social and environmental goals.

Prue has been involved in collaborative international research programmes and has been a regular reviewer of international proposals and programmes. She currently sits on the Governing Board for the Global Research Council. In 2021, Prue was awarded the New Zealand Public Service Medal in recognition of her career in the New Zealand science system. She is also a companion of the New Zealand Royal Society.

